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## 1. Why do we need generic lab tests?

Generic lab tests simplify the process of entering lab test results into the NEDSS system manually.

Sometimes laboratories won't be able to enter test results into the system automatically. When this happens, labs will send paper lab test reports to the Health Department. The "manual lab entry" process is described below.

Manual lab entry – using Loinc	Manual lab entry -- using generic lab tests
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The data entry person interprets all of the information on the paper lab report.</li> <li>She then searches through Loinc to find an equivalent Loinc test.</li> </ul> <p>Entering lab data into the system means:</p> <p><i>"The lab test on this paper report <u>is equivalent to</u> this particular Loinc test."</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The data entry person interprets the paper lab test report in a general manner.</li> <li>She then searches for an appropriate generic lab test -- i.e., a test category in the generic list.</li> </ul> <p>Entering lab data into the system means:</p> <p><i>"The lab test on this paper report <u>is a subtype of</u> this generic test."</i></p>

### Example

Loinc test:	30021-0	BORRELIA BURGENDORFERI 23KD AB.IGM:ACNC:PT:SNV:ORD:IB
Generic test:	g1071	Borrelia burgdorferi antibody

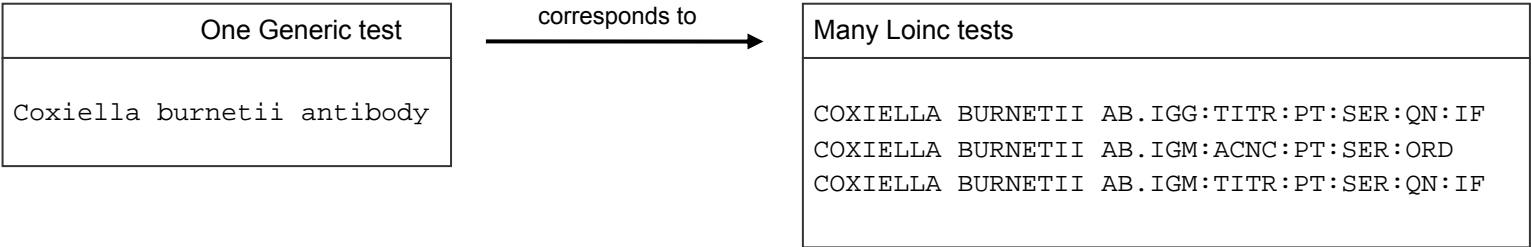
*Loinc is precise but not user-friendly*

- There are 150 Loinc tests for Borrelia burgdorferi antibodies. Finding the right one would be difficult and time consuming.
- Loinc does not contain every lab test that every lab is doing. Some lab tests of public health interest cannot be coded in Loinc.

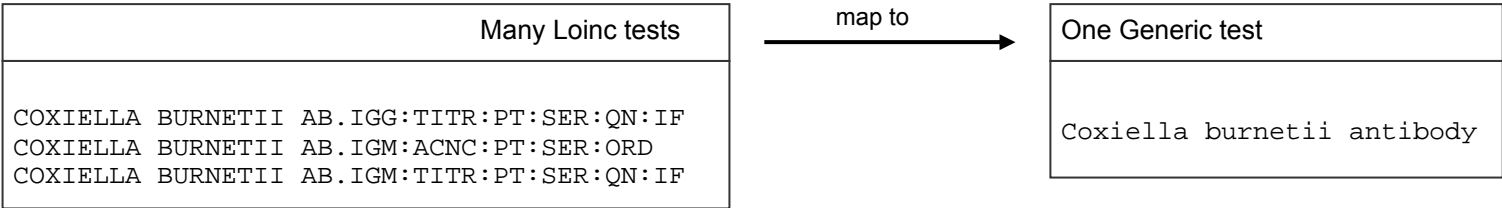
**Summary:** Generic lab tests are types or categories of tests that make it easier and faster to enter lab data manually.

2. Mapping generic lab tests

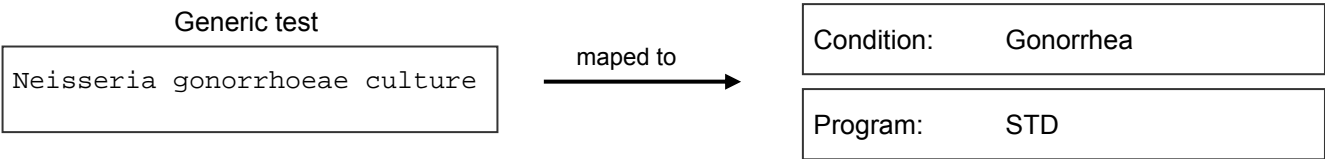
1. Generic lab tests cannot be mapped to specific Loinc codes because one Generic test corresponds to many Loinc tests:



2. Loinc codes can be mapped to generic lab tests.

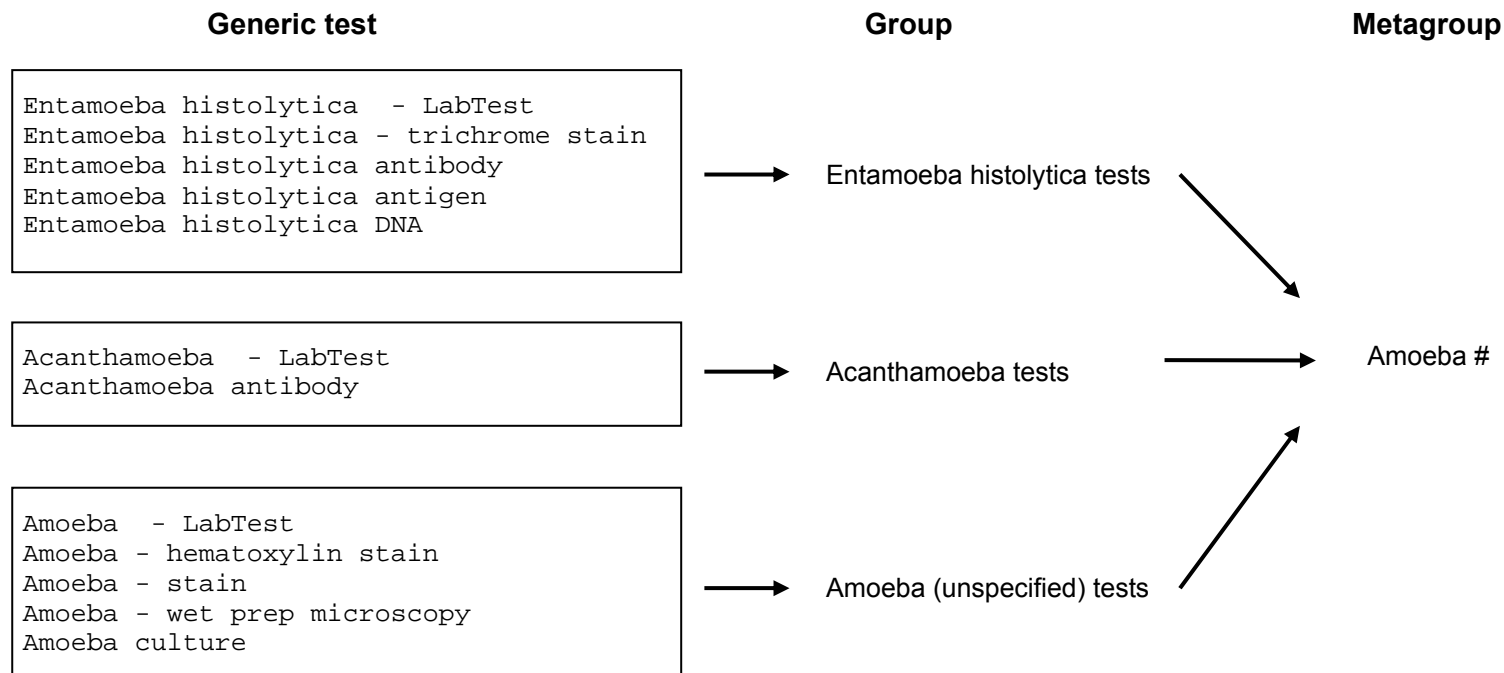


3. Generic tests can be mapped to conditions and program areas.



### 3. Organizing and indexing generic lab tests

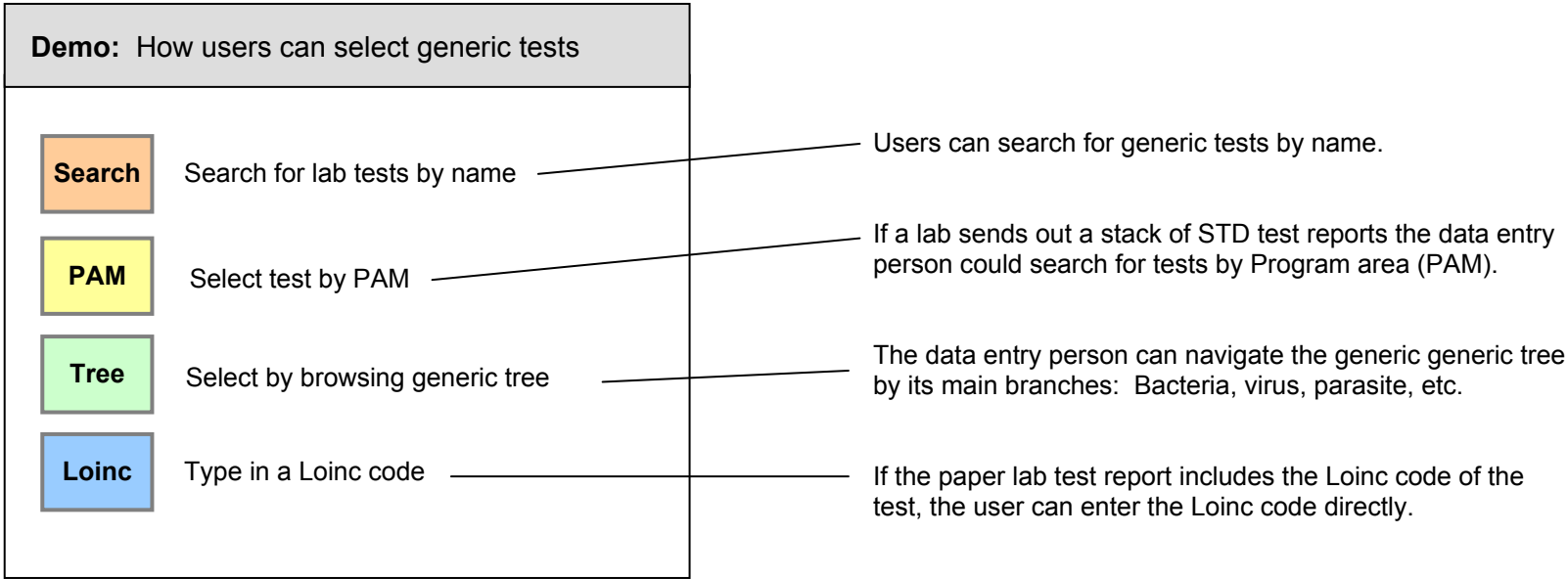
There are 924 generic lab tests in the PHIN Condition Mapping Tables. An easy means of navigating these tests is needed so an inexperienced user can find the right tests quickly. In order to provide this navigational functionality, the generic lab tests are organized and indexed by "Groups" and "Metagroups".



Each group of generic tests contains one non-specific Generic Test. Examples above: "*Amoeba – LabTest*", "*Acanthamoeba – LabTest*", etc. These non-specific generic tests can be used in two situations:

- The data entry person can't find a more specific generic test
- The paper lab test report is non-specific – e.g., "*Tuberculosis test: Positive*"

4. Interface demo: How users can select generic tests



Demo: Searching by test name

Search

Search for lab tests by name

PAM

Select test by PAM

Tree

Select by browsing generic tree

Loinc

Type in a Loinc code

Search

Demo: Searching by test name

Type in 1-3 letters

L

Submit

Search

Demo: Searching by test name

Select a generic test

g1470 La Crosse virus - LabTest

g1471 La Crosse virus antibody

g1472 Lassa virus - LabTest

g1473 Lassa virus antibody

g1474 Lassa virus antigen

g1475 Legionella - LabTest

g1476 Legionella antibody

g1477 Legionella antigen

g1478 Legionella bozemaniae antibody

g1479 Legionella DNA

g1480 Legionella dumoffii antibody

g1481 Legionella gormanii antibody

g1482 Legionella longbeachae antibody

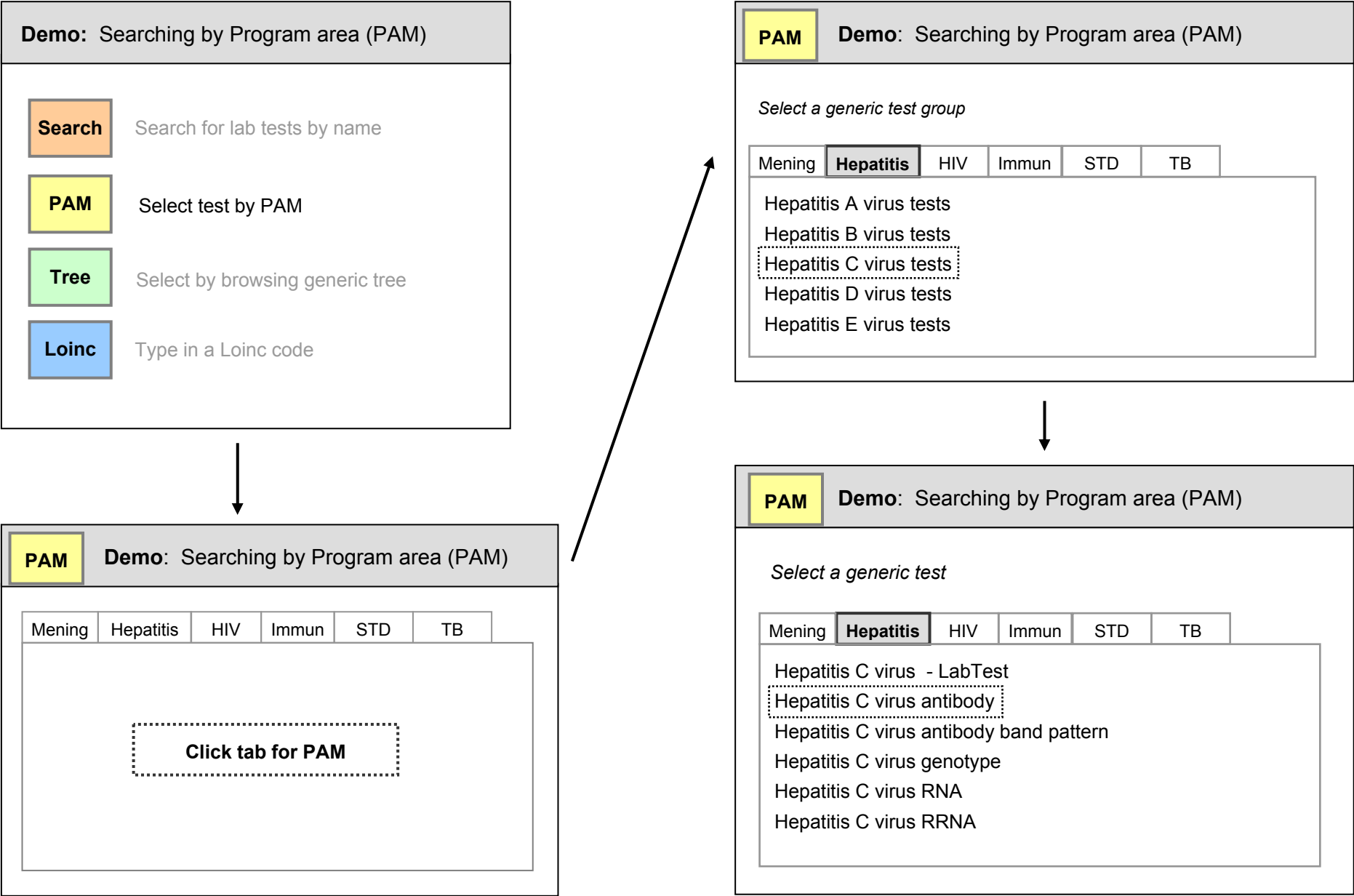
g1483 Legionella micdadei antibody

g1484 Legionella non-pneumophila antibody

g1485 Legionella pneumophila - LabTest

g1486 Legionella pneumophila antibody

The user selects a test from the list



**Demo: Browsing the generic tree**

**Search** Search for lab tests by name

**PAM** Select test by PAM

**Tree** Select by browsing generic tree

**Loinc** Type in a Loinc code

**Tree** **Demo: Browsing the generic tree**

*Select generic test*

Bacteria	Cells	Fungus	Parasite	Virus
Borrelia burgdorferi - LabTest				
Borrelia burgdorferi antibody				
Borrelia burgdorferi antigen				
Borrelia burgdorferi culture				
Borrelia burgdorferi DNA				

**Tree** **Demo: Browsing the generic tree**

Bacteria	Cells	Fungus	Parasite	Virus
Select branch of Generic tree				

**Tree** **Demo: Browsing the generic tree**

*Select generic test metagroup*

Bacteria	Cells	Fungus	Parasite	Virus
Bacillus anthracis #				
Bartonella #				
Bordatella #				
Borrelia #				
Brucella #				
Calymmatobacterium #				

**Tree** **Demo: Browsing the generic tree**

*Select generic test group*

Bacteria	Cells	Fungus	Parasite	Virus
Borrelia (unspecified) tests				
Borrelia burgdorferi tests				
Borrelia hermsii tests				



Demo: Type in a Loinc code

Search

Search for lab tests by name

PAM

Select test by PAM

Tree

Select by browsing generic tree

Loinc

Type in a Loinc code

Loinc

Demo: Type in a Loinc code

If the Loinc code is written on the test report

Type Loinc code here: 7925-1

Submit

Loinc

Demo: Type in a Loinc code

Loinc code entered: 7925-1

Loinc test:

INFLUENZA VIRUS A MISSISSIPPI  
AB:ACNC:PT:SER:QN

Generic test:

Influenza virus A antibody

Yes this is OK

Submit

No, not OK

Cancel

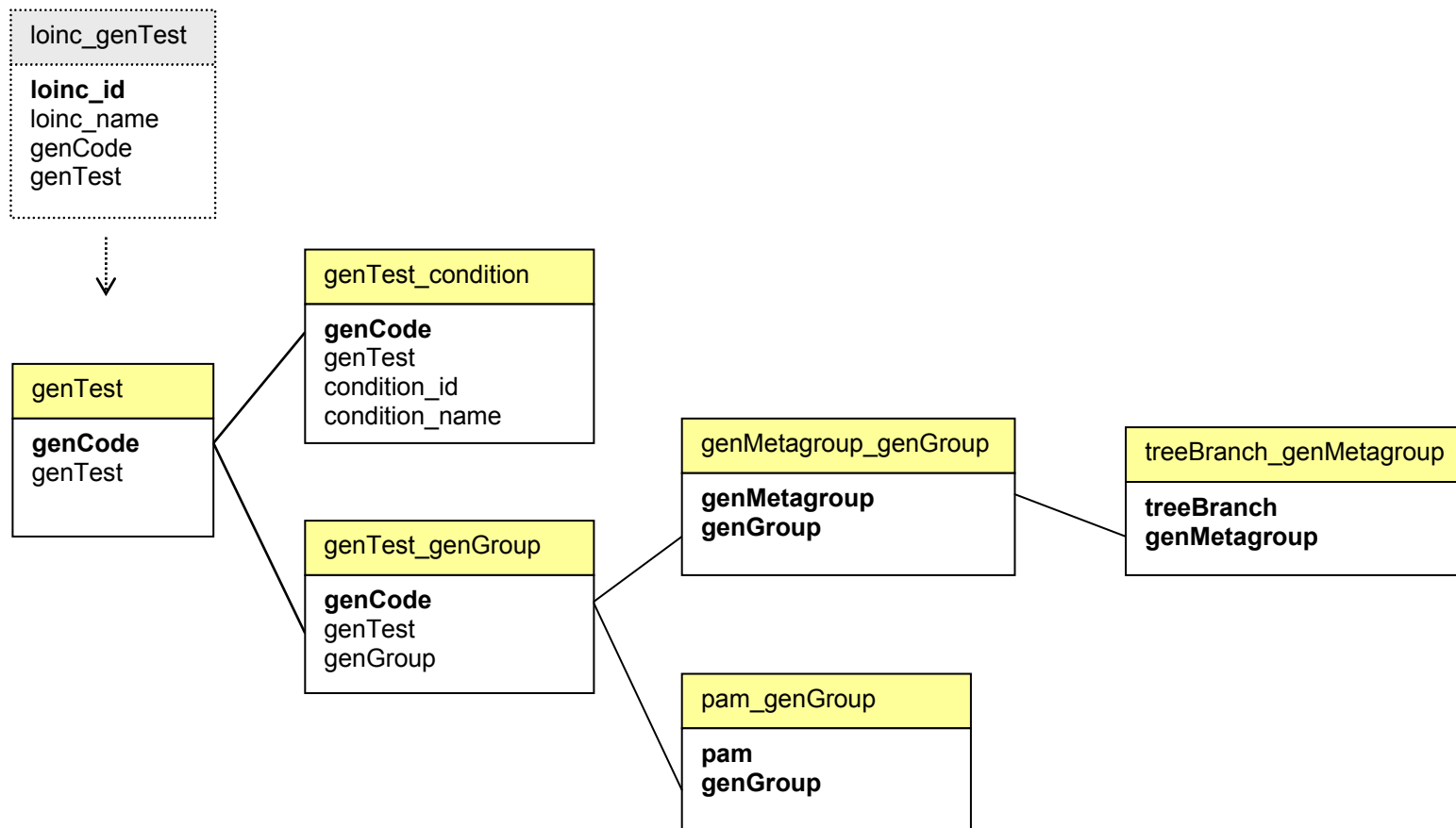
## **5. Feedback**

Please email or call me with your questions or comments:

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404-417-3149

## Appendix: Database tables and queries



This is an example of how the generic test tables can be related. You might want to do it differently:

- The tables could be broken up to fully normalize the relationships.
- The tables could be denormalized further, for ease of management.

These queries demonstrate how to use the generic test tables in an application. The specific queries shown here were used for the Interface Demo (Part 4 of this document).

Search method (see Demo, above)	Query used in the Demo
1. Search for generic test by name	<pre>SELECT * FROM <b>genTest</b> Where genTest Like "L*"</pre>
2. Search for generic test by PAM	<pre>SELECT genGroup FROM <b>pam_genGroup</b> Where pam Like "hep*"  SELECT genTest FROM <b>genTest_genGroup</b> Where genGroup Like "Hepatitis C virus tests"</pre>
3. Select by browsing generic tree	<pre>SELECT genMetagroup FROM <b>treeBranch_genMetagroup</b> Where treebranch Like "bacteria"  SELECT genGroup FROM <b>genMetagroup_genGroup</b> Where genMetagroup Like "Borrelia #"  SELECT genTest FROM <b>genTest_genGroup</b> Where genGroup Like "Borrelia burgdorferi tests"</pre>
4. Type in a Loinc code	<pre>SELECT loinc_name, genCode, genTest FROM <b>loinc_genTest</b> Where loinc_id Like "7925-1"</pre>